

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 20-1756V

UNPUBLISHED

DANIELLE RODRIGUEZ,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: May 3, 2023

Special Processing Unit (SPU);  
Damages Decision Based on Proffer;  
Influenza (Flu) Vaccine; Shoulder  
Injury Related to Vaccine  
Administration (SIRVA)

*Diana Lynn Stadelnikas, Maglio Christopher & Toale, PA, Sarasota, FL, for Petitioner.*

*Nina Ren, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.*

### **DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES<sup>1</sup>**

On December 3, 2020, Danielle Rodriguez filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*<sup>2</sup> (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) as a result of an influenza vaccination she received on October 10, 2018. Petition at ¶¶1, 12-13. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On February 13, 2023, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding Petitioner entitled to compensation for her SIRVA. On May 3, 2023, Respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation (“Proffer”) indicating Petitioner should be awarded \$75,000.00. Proffer at 1-2. In the Proffer, Respondent represented that Petitioner agrees with the

<sup>1</sup> Because this Decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action taken in this case, it must be made publicly accessible and will be posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims’ website, and/or at <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc>, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2018) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the Decision will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

<sup>2</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

proffered award. *Id.* Based on the record as a whole, I find that Petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **I award Petitioner a lump sum payment of \$75,000.00 in the form of a check payable to Petitioner.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under Section 15(a).

The Clerk of Court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.<sup>3</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/Brian H. Corcoran**  
Brian H. Corcoran  
Chief Special Master

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<sup>3</sup> Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS**

DANIELLE RODRIGUEZ,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

No. 20-1756V  
Chief Special Master Corcoran  
ECF

**RESPONDENT’S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION**<sup>1</sup>

On December 3, 2020, petitioner, Danielle Rodriguez, filed a petition for compensation under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, *as amended* (the “Vaccine Act”), 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-1 to -34, alleging that she suffered a Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”), as identified in the Vaccine Injury Table (“Table”), after she received an influenza vaccination on October 10, 2018. *See* Petition. On February 13, 2023, respondent, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, filed a Rule 4(c) Report, indicating that this case is appropriate for compensation under the terms of the Vaccine Act for a SIRVA Table injury, and later that same day, the Chief Special Master issued a Ruling on Entitlement finding petitioner entitled to compensation. ECF Nos. 34, 35.

**I. Items of Compensation**

Respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded a lump sum of **\$75,000.00**, for all damages, including pain and suffering. This amount represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner is entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). Petitioner agrees.

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<sup>1</sup> This Proffer does not include attorneys’ fees and costs, which the parties intend to address after the Damages Decision is issued.

## **II. Form of the Award**

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case. Respondent recommends that petitioner be awarded a lump sum payment of **\$75,000.00**, in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Danielle Rodriguez.<sup>2</sup> Petitioner agrees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Director  
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/s/ NINA Y. REN  
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DATED: May 3, 2023

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<sup>2</sup> Should petitioner die prior to entry of judgment, respondent would oppose any award for future medical expenses, future lost earnings, and future pain and suffering, and the parties reserve the right to move the Court for appropriate relief.